

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A treatment apparatus, comprising:
a first hermetic chamber having a first opening;
a tube capable of inserting into the first opening, and the tube having a second opening on a side facing the first hermetic chamber; and
a first hermetic door, placed outside the first hermetic chamber, capable of opening and closing the first opening, and the door being shielded from the first hermetic chamber by the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening.
2. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
an exhaust system connected to the first hermetic chamber via the first opening.
3. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 2,
wherein the exhaust system is connected to the first hermetic chamber via the tube.
4. (Currently Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the tube has a third opening in an area where the side opposite to the first hermetic chamber with the first hermetic door being positioned between the second opening and the third opening when the tube is inserted into the first opening.
5. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
a means for regulating a temperature in the first hermetic chamber.
6. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
a means, placed along the inserting direction of the tube, for guiding an inserting operation of the tube.

7. (Currently Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first hermetic chamber has a plurality of the first openings, and the tube and the first hermetic door are provided at each of the first openings.

8. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein a plurality of the first hermetic chambers are linearly arranged, said plurality of the first hermetic chambers being partitioned off by openable and closeable partitions.

9. (Currently Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a second hermetic chamber adjoining the first hermetic chamber with the first hermetic door therebetween, wherein the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber from the second hermetic chamber.

10. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein the tube has a third opening on a side opposite to the first hermetic chamber when the tube is inserted into the first opening.

11. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:

an exhaust system connected to the first hermetic chamber via the second hermetic chamber.

12. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein the third opening of the tube and the exhaust system are hermetically connected when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

13. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further

comprising:

a means for performing pressure regulation in a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber so that a pressure in the space is higher than a pressure in the first hermetic chamber when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

14. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

a means for performing pressure regulation in the first hermetic chamber so that a pressure in the first hermetic chamber is lower than a pressure in a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber and higher than a pressure in the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

15. (Currently Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein the means for performing pressure regulation has a means for supplying a carrier gas to a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber.

16. (Previously Presented) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 11, further comprising:

a filter means placed between the second hermetic chamber and the exhaust system.

17. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 16, wherein the filter means includes at least a wet filter.

18. (Currently Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein the tube is removable, and the second hermetic chamber has a second hermetic door that is hermetically openable and closeable ~~door~~ for replacing the tube with a

second tube.

19. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:
a means for regulating a temperature in the second hermetic chamber.

20. (Original) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:
a means for supplying a non-oxidizing gas to the second hermetic chamber.

21-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Amended) A treatment apparatus, comprising:
a hermetic zone within a hermetic chamber for housing an object to be treated;
an exhaust system connected to the hermetic chamber for exhausting the hermetic

zone;

a means for heating the interior of the hermetic zone;

a reforming means, placed between the hermetic zone and the exhaust system, for
reforming a gaseous emission produced by heating the object to be treated; and

a means for controlling the heating means and the reforming means so that the object
to be treated is heated after the reforming means reaches a state capable of reforming the
gaseous emission.

34. (New) A treatment apparatus for treating an object, comprising:

a first hermetic chamber having a first opening, and the first chamber having a heater
to heat the object;

a tube capable of inserting into the first opening, and the tube having a second
opening in an inserting direction; and

a first hermetic door capable of opening and closing the first opening, and the first

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hermetic door being shielded from the first hermetic chamber by the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening.

35. (New) A treatment apparatus, comprising:

a first hermetic chamber having a first opening;

a tube capable of inserting into the first opening, and the tube having a second opening in an inserting direction; and

a first hermetic door capable of opening and closing the first opening, and the first hermetic door being shielded from the first hermetic chamber by the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening.